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## Resolutions Adopted by the Second National Peace Congress Held at Chicago May 3-5, 1909.

*Whereas*, Civilization has now reached a point where conscience, reason and the sense of brotherhood are increasingly controlling men in their relations to each other; when private war and the duel have wholly or largely disappeared, and the different nations have created for themselves systems of law and courts by which differences between their citizens are peacefully adjusted; and

*Whereas*, The two Hague Conferences have created a permanent international court of arbitration to which all the nations are now parties, approved unanimously the principle of obligatory arbitration for the settlement of international controversies; have sanctioned, without a dissenting voice, the creation of a permanent international court of justice, with judges always in service and holding regular sessions, and have urged the governments to find a satisfactory formula for the selection of the judges; and have laid the foundations of a regular congress of nations by unanimously voting for periodic meetings of the Hague Conference hereafter—which great measures are the most decisive steps yet taken toward that organization and systematic coöperation of the nations which shall eventually substitute law for war; therefore be it

*Resolved*, By this second United States National Peace Congress, that public war is now out of date, a relic of barbarism unworthy of our time, and that the nations of the world by joint agreement, by a league of peace among themselves, ought to make its occurrence hereafter impossible.

*Resolved*, That no dispute between nations, except such as may involve the national life and independence, should be reserved from arbitration, and that a general treaty of obligatory arbitration should be concluded at the earliest possible date. Pending such a general treaty, we urge upon our government and the other leading powers such broadening of the scope of their arbitration treaties as shall provide, after the example of the Danish-Netherlands treaty, for the reference to the Hague Court of all differences whatever not settled otherwise by peaceful means.

*Resolved*, That the prevailing rivalry in armaments, both on land and sea, which imposes such exhausting burdens of taxation on the people and is the fruitful source of suspicion, bitter feeling and war alarms, is wholly unworthy of enlightened modern nations, is a lamentable failure as a basis of enduring peace, and ought to be arrested by agreement of the powers without delay.

*Resolved*, That this Peace Congress expresses its high appreciation of the action of our government in the recent conclusion of twenty-four arbitration treaties and in the promotion of friendly relations between the various American republics. It recognizes with special satisfaction what was done by our government and representatives at the second Hague Conference in behalf of a general treaty of obligatory arbitration, a court of arbitral justice, the immunity of private property at sea from capture in time of war, and the establishment of a periodic congress of the nations, and in support of the proposition of the British government for limitation of armaments. It respectfully and urgently requests the President and the

Congress of the United States to take the initiative, as far as practicable, in an endeavor to complete the work of the second Hague Conference in these various directions; and especially to secure an agreement among the military and naval powers for a speedy arrest of the ruinous competition in armaments now prevailing. As an immediate step to this end, we urge our government, in obedience to the charge of the second Hague Conference, as well as the first, that all nations should earnestly address themselves to this problem to create a special commission of the highest character for its consideration, whose report shall serve as a basis for the action of our delegates at the third Hague Conference.

*Resolved*, That this Congress earnestly endorses the movement so auspiciously begun by the governments of Denmark and Great Britain to provide at public cost for constructive measures to promote international good understanding, hospitality and friendship, and appeals to our government for broad and generous action upon these lines.

*Resolved*, That this Congress, representing all sections of our great country, appeals to our churches, schools and press, our workingmen's and commercial organizations and to all men of goodwill, for increased devotion to this commanding cause and such large support of its active agencies as shall strongly advance the great measures which are to come before the next Hague Conference, and shall maintain our nation in high and influential leadership in behalf of international justice and order.

## The Eighty-first Annual Meeting of the American Peace Society.

The eighty-first annual business meeting of the American Peace Society was held at the Society's rooms, 31 Beacon Street, Boston, May 13, 1909, at 2 P. M.

Hon. Robert Treat Paine, president of the Society, was in the chair.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. George H. Spencer of Everett, Mass.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Secretary Trueblood reported that all persons elected to positions at the last annual meeting had accepted.

Greetings to the Society were read from the National Farmers' Association and from Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey, Superintendent of the Peace Department of the National W. C. T. U.

The Nominating Committee chosen by the Board of Directors presented a list of persons to serve as officers, Vice-Presidents and Board of Directors for the coming year. The report was accepted and the persons elected to the several positions. (The list is given in full on page 146.)

The Field Secretary, Rev. Charles E. Beals, moved that the name of Hon. John R. Lindgren, who had just endowed a peace lectureship in Northwestern University with \$25,000, be added to the list of Vice-Presidents